

South Spokane Street Project

Viaduct Widening and 4th Avenue Off-Ramp Construction

Progress Bulletin, Issue 1, August 20, 2008 — Start of the Utility Relocation Phase

What is the South Spokane Street Viaduct Project, anyway?

After years of planning and anticipation, the South Spokane Street Viaduct is being widened and new on- and off-ramps installed. The project starts this month with the relocation of a water-main followed by the start of work on a new off-ramp later this year, and on widening of the upper roadway mid-2009. Overall completion is slated for the 3rd quarter of 2011.

The project extends from Highway 99 to 6th Avenue South along South Spokane Street. A new two-lane off-ramp will be installed for eastbound traffic leading to 4th Avenue South. The upper roadway (called the Spokane Street Viaduct) will be widened by 41 feet and a new on- and off-ramp for westbound traffic will be constructed on 1st Avenue South. The wider, resurfaced upper roadway will include shoulders, westbound collector lanes for traffic entering and leaving the viaduct, and a third east bound lane between SR 99 and 4th Avenue South.

The lower roadway (South Spokane Street itself) will be completely rebuilt in concrete to be more durable, with new curbs, sidewalks and better pedestrian and bicycle access.

BEFORE

AFTER



Why now?

This and several other traffic improvements in downtown and SODO are scheduled to be substantially complete BEFORE the start of major impacts from WSDOT's Alaskan Way Viaduct Project. The Spokane Street Project will significantly improve traffic flows and safety on this key east-west route for decades to come. Commuters, emergency services and freight traffic will all benefit from the wider and upgraded roadway on the viaduct, the new 4th Avenue South ramp (which bypasses surface rail tracks) and an upgraded lower roadway.

What can I expect?

Later this month South Spokane Street will be closed to eastbound traffic between 1st Avenue South and 4th Avenue South. Only thru traffic on the lower roadway will be affected, and access to local businesses will be maintained.

This eastbound closure, which will later extend to 6th Avenue South, will likely continue uninterrupted until mid-2010.

Starting mid-2009, westbound South Spokane Street will also have road closures in order to widen the upper roadway.

Extended periods of lane restrictions are not currently expected for the upper roadway (on the Spokane Street Viaduct itself).

Signs indicating detour routes around the construction will be installed and the timing of traffic signals will be adjusted to accommodate the detour.

Parking under the Spokane Street Viaduct will need to be eliminated during construction; affected areas will be signed and vehicles notified in advance.

How do I get more information?

- Check out <http://www.seattle.gov/spokane> for details on this project
- Sign-up for project email updates on the project website
- Watch for variable message signs and detour signs
- Watch for a mailed flier with detailed information
- Request a project briefing for your group
- Send specific questions and requests to Art Brochet, at 206-547-1008 or art@spokaneproject.info

SURFACE DETOUR Estimated start late-August 2008

